

For the desires of the flesh are opposed to the [Holy] Spirit, and the [desires of the] Spirit are opposed to the flesh (godless human nature); for these are antagonistic to each other [continually withstanding and in conflict with each other], so that you are not free but are prevented from doing what you desire to do.

— Galatians 5:17 (AMPC)

[View Previous Devo](#)

JANUARY 10, 2018

Settle the Dispute

- by Joyce Meyer

To be successful in accomplishing God's will for our lives, we must have determination. One definition of *determine* is, "to settle a dispute by an authoritative decision or a pronouncement." This definition encourages me because I make "pronouncements" often as a way of building my determination in certain areas.

For example, when I'm weary and tempted to feel sorry for myself for some reason, I tell myself, "Oh, no you don't! Stop your whining and straighten up! God loves me, and I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me!"

Galatians 5:17 tells us that the flesh and the spirit don't get along. Remember, the definition of *determine* carries the idea of settling a dispute. This is important because if you are going to commit to anything, you will have to settle the never-ending dispute between your flesh and your spirit.

You may not always want to make the effort to be determined, but don't give up or you'll be outside of God's will. When you're tempted to give up, make "pronouncements" based on God's Word, encouraging yourself to stay determined and settle the dispute between your spirit and flesh as you follow His plan.

Prayer Starter:

Holy Spirit, I want to settle the dispute between my flesh and spirit, and I can't do it without determination. Strengthen me and give me the right pronouncements to keep me going so that I never give up.

joycemeyer.org